IN THE CLAIMS:

The status of the claims is as follows. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-41.   (Cancelled).

42.   (Currently Amended) An energy management device used in an energy management architecture for managing an energy distribution system, said energy management architecture including a network, said energy management device comprising:

an energy distribution system interface configured to couple said energy management device with at least a portion of said energy distribution system;

a network interface configured to couple said energy management device with said network for transmitting outbound communications to said network, said outbound communications comprising energy management data;

a processor coupled with said network interface and said energy distribution system interface, configured to generate said energy management data;

an enclosure which surrounds said energy management device and protects said energy management device from tampering;

a tamper prevention seal coupled with said enclosure, which detects unauthorized access to said enclosure; ~~and~~

a seal tamper detection unit coupled with said processor and said tamper prevention seal and configured to detect when said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred~~,~~ ; and

<u>a memory coupled with said processor, said memory configured to store confidential data, wherein said confidential data comprises a private key configured to sign said energy management data,</u>

wherein said processor is further configured to maintain said energy management data, but prevent said transmitting of said energy management data through said network interface, when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

43.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, wherein said tamper
        seal comprises a revenue seal.

44.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, wherein said tamper
        seal comprises a metering point id seal.

45.   (Cancelled).

46.   (Currently Amended) The energy management device of Claim 45 42, wherein said
        processor is further configured to prevent access to said confidential data when said seal
        tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized
        access has occurred.

47.   (Cancelled).

48.   (Currently Amended) The energy management device of Claim 47 42, wherein said
        processor is further configured to send a message warning that said tamper prevention
        seal has been tampered with through said network interface when said seal tamper
        detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access
        has occurred, and to sign said message with said private key.

49.   (Currently Amended) The energy management device of Claim 45 42, wherein said
        confidential data further comprises a certificate configured to sign said energy
        management data.

50.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, wherein said
        processor is further configured to prevent said transmitting of signed energy management
        data through said network interface when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said
        tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

51.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, wherein said
        processor is further configured to send a message warning that said tamper prevention
        seal has been tampered with through said network interface when said seal tamper

detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

52. (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, wherein said processor is further configured to block external access to said energy management device when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

53. (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, wherein said processor is further configured to create an audit log when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

54. (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 53, wherein said processor is further configured to at least one of hashing and encrypting said audit log.

55. (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, wherein said processor is further configured to set off a security alarm when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

56. (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, further comprising a display coupled with said processor and configured to visually display text, and wherein said processor is further configured to place a warning message on said display when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

57. (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, wherein said seal tamper detection unit further comprises a sensor configured to detect that said tamper prevention seal is broken.

58. (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 57, wherein said sensor comprises a limit switch.

59.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 57, wherein said sensor comprises a proximity sensor.

60.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 59, wherein said proximity sensor comprises at least one of a pin, an optical proximity sensor, an optical motion detector, a grounding tab, an ultrasonic sensor, an electro-magnetic sensor and a gyroscope.

61.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 57, wherein said sensor comprises at least one of a camera and a video camera.

62.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, further comprising an energy storage device coupled with said seal tamper detection unit and configured to provide power to said seal tamper detection unit in power outage situations.

63.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, wherein said processor is further configured to perform at least one energy management function on said at least a portion of said energy distribution system via said energy distribution system interface, said processor further configured to generate said energy management data as a function of said energy management function.

64.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 42, further comprising: an enclosure defining an interior and an exterior and configured to enclose said energy management device within said interior and to limit access to said energy management device, and further wherein said tamper prevention seal is coupled with said enclosure and configured to deter unauthorized access to said interior of said enclosure and indicate any such access.

65.   (Currently Amended) An energy management device used in an energy management architecture for managing an energy distribution system, said energy management architecture including a network, said energy management device comprising:

       an energy distribution system interface configured to couple said energy management device with at least a portion of said energy distribution system;

a network interface configured to couple said energy management device with said network for transmitting outbound communications to said network, said outbound communications comprising energy management data;

a processor coupled with said network interface and said energy distribution system interface, configured to generate said energy management data;

an enclosure which surrounds said energy management device and protects said energy management device from tampering;

a tamper prevention seal coupled with said enclosure, which detects unauthorized access to said enclosure; ~~and~~

a seal tamper detection unit coupled with said processor and said tamper prevention seal and configured to detect when said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred~~,~~ ; and

<u>a memory coupled with said processor, said memory configured to store confidential data, wherein said confidential data comprises a private key configured to sign said energy management data,</u>

wherein said processor is further configured to maintain said energy management data, but configured to mark said energy management data as unreliable, when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

66.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 65, wherein said tamper seal comprises a revenue seal.

67.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 65, wherein said tamper seal comprises a metering point id seal.

68.   (Cancelled).

69.   (Currently Amended) The energy management device of Claim ~~68~~ <u>65</u>, wherein said processor is further configured to prevent access to said confidential data when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

70.   (Cancelled).

71.   (Currently Amended) The energy management device of Claim ~~70~~ 65, wherein said
        processor is further configured to send a message warning that said tamper prevention
        seal has been tampered with through said network interface when said seal tamper
        detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access
        has occurred, and to sign said message with said private key.

72.   (Currently Amended) The energy management device of Claim ~~68~~ 65, wherein said
        confidential data further comprises a certificate configured to sign said energy
        management data.

73.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 65, wherein said
        processor is further configured to prevent said transmitting of signed energy management
        data through said network interface when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said
        tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

74.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 65, wherein said
        processor is further configured to send a message warning that said tamper prevention
        seal has been tampered with through said network interface when said seal tamper
        detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access
        has occurred.

75.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 65, wherein said
        processor is further configured to block external access to said energy management
        device when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal
        indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

76.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 65, further comprising
        an energy storage device coupled with said seal tamper detection unit and configured to
        provide power to said seal tamper detection unit in power outage situations.

77.   (Currently Amended) An energy management device used in an energy management
architecture for managing an energy distribution system, said energy management
architecture including a network, said energy management device comprising:

an energy distribution system interface configured to couple said energy
management device with at least a portion of said energy distribution system;

a network interface configured to couple said energy management device with
said network for transmitting outbound communications to said network, said outbound
communications comprising energy management data;

a processor coupled with said network interface and said energy distribution
system interface, configured to generate said energy management data;

an enclosure which surrounds said energy management device and protects said
energy management device from tampering;

a tamper prevention seal coupled with said enclosure, which detects unauthorized
access to said enclosure;

a seal tamper detection unit coupled with said processor and said tamper
prevention seal and configured to detect when said tamper prevention seal indicates that
unauthorized access has occurred; and

a memory coupled with said processor and configured to store at least one device
setting, wherein information of said at least one device setting is preserved when said seal
tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized
access has occurred,

wherein said processor is further configured to appear to make a change to said at
least one device setting after said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper
prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred, but is operative to
maintain a first copy of said at least one device setting as if no change was made and
further operative to maintain a second copy of said at least one device setting based on a
change.

78.   (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 77, wherein said
processor is further configured to prevent changes to said at least one device setting after

said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

79. (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 77, wherein said processor is further configured to permit changes to said at least one device setting, and further is configured to send a message warning that said device setting has been changed through said network interface after said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

80. (Cancelled).

81. (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 77, wherein said tamper seal comprises a revenue seal.

82. (Previously Presented) The energy management device of Claim 77, wherein said tamper seal comprises a metering point id seal.

83. (New) An energy management device used in an energy management architecture for managing an energy distribution system, said energy management architecture including a network, said energy management device comprising:

said energy distribution system interface configured to couple said energy management device with at least a portion of said energy distribution system;

a network interface configured to couple said energy management device with said network for transmitting outbound communications to said network, said outbound communications comprising energy management data;

a processor coupled with said network interface and said energy distribution system interface, configured to generate said energy management data;

an enclosure which surrounds said energy management device and protects said energy management device from tampering;

a tamper prevention seal coupled with said enclosure, which detects unauthorized access to said enclosure; and

a seal tamper detection unit coupled with said processor and said tamper

prevention seal and configured to detect when said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred,

wherein said processor is further configured to maintain said energy management data, but prevent said transmitting of said energy management data through said network interface, when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred, and

wherein said processor is further configured to prevent said transmitting of signed energy management data through said network interface when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.

84.   (New) An energy management device used in an energy management architecture for managing an energy distribution system, said energy management architecture including a network, said energy management device comprising:

an energy distribution system interface configured to couple said energy management device with at least a portion of said energy distribution system;

a network interface configured to couple said energy management device with said network for transmitting outbound communications to said network, said outbound communications comprising energy management data;

a processor coupled with said network interface and said energy distribution system interface, configured to generate said energy management data;

an enclosure which surrounds said energy management device and protects said energy management device from tampering;

a tamper prevention seal coupled with said enclosure, which detects unauthorized access to said enclosure; and

a seal tamper detection unit coupled with said processor and said tamper prevention seal and configured to detect when said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred,

wherein said processor is further configured to maintain said energy management data, but configured to mark said energy management data as unreliable, when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized

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access has occurred, and

wherein said processor is further configured to prevent said transmitting of signed energy management data through said network interface when said seal tamper detection unit detects that said tamper prevention seal indicates that unauthorized access has occurred.